

COMMENT OF  
THE DAY

Sanity Returns

NOT a year has passed since Senator Joseph McCarthy stood at the summit of his power. It is hard to believe that today he has less influence than any faction in the American Congress—and yet it is so. Not only is the man himself dethroned, discredited and despised for his predatory incursions into the dearest possession of the American way of life, but the strange alien cult which he fostered has now become the target of derision and scorn.

Many will feel that events have moved remarkably swiftly. The resilience of the man was once one of his outstanding features, and his ideas were widely espoused. But McCarthy flourished in a hysteria of his own making—and a Republican dominated Senate. Now both have gone. Sanity has reasserted itself. Realism is returning to restore the lopsided balance that once prevailed.

HIS demise has had a not unexpected sequel. It has mellowed the recalcitrance of a former sympathiser within the Republican Party, Senator Knowland, who a fortnight ago demolished a resolution launched by Senator McCarthy and three supporters by leading the Senate to a 73-vote majority against them. The resolution? That President Eisenhower should demand the rolling back of the iron curtain at the Big Four Geneva conference.

This is perhaps a fair measure of McCarthy's influence today. But infinitely more pleasing to all friends of America is a sign that the light of reason has been rekindled; the "subversive" menace is no longer judged by its grotesque magnified shadow but by the true stature of its substance which is insignificant.

Denial of passports to alleged subversives, for instance: previously this was defended by the State Department on the pretext that it was not denying "rights" as such to those individuals but only withholding "privileges". In a recent judgment on the appeal by the late Albert Einstein's executor, Mr. Schachtman, against the Department's refusal to issue him with a passport the court ruled although he was a chairman of a "Trotskyite" splinter group it was a violation of an American citizen's natural right to free travel.

THE court contended that travel is nowadays impossible without a passport, and that its receipt is indistinguishable from the right to travel. Nor was the court impressed by the fact that Mr. Schachtman's Trotskyite group was among the Attorney General's list of 275 allegedly subversive organisations. The chief judge remarked: "the promise that a man is not fit to work for the Government does not support the conclusion that he is not fit to go to Europe."

This is but one example of the refreshing influences now at work on the American scene. Gone are the Cohns and Schines and going is the authoritarianism in the ranks of the civil service that McCarthyism fostered. But before it can be completely exterminated the embarrassment that the ludicrous spectacle of McCarthyism created has to go further and be spread wider. An obnoxious, powerful internal security system has become deeply entrenched in the administration. And the roots yield unwillingly. But it is comforting to know that a start has been made and that for McCarthyism, it is the beginning of the end.

# 'BIG FOUR' REACH FIRST HURDLE

## Difference Over Timing Of German Reunification BULGANIN WILL NOT YIELD

Geneva, July 19.

The third session of the Big Four conference today revealed differences of approach between the Soviet Union, and the three Western powers on German reunification.

The second day of the conference began with the first meeting this morning of the Foreign Ministers of the four powers, who prepared a four-point agenda for the meetings of the government chiefs: 1, Germany, 2, Security, 3, Disarmament, and 4, exchanges between East and West.

In the afternoon, at a meeting marked by cordiality and seeming goodwill on all sides, the Heads of Government expressed their points of view on the first point of the agenda: Germany.

The Western position was that Germany should be rapidly reunified and then permitted to choose its own alliance.

The Soviet position was that the four powers should wait until NATO itself became outmoded, following a general reconciliation and the establishment of a European security system, and then proceed to the reunification of Germany.

The British Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, told the Big Four conference that Britain regarded the problem of German reunification as vital and most urgent.

He said there was general agreement that the reunification of Germany was desirable but there was a clear divergence of view with regard to timing, according to a British spokesman.

Sir Anthony said he would be happy to consider any other suggestions on security but he emphasised he would be deeply concerned if it were agreed to postpone unity for a long period while elaborate systems were worked out covering the whole continent of Europe.

### DANGERS OF DELAY

M. Edgar Faure, the French Premier, who presided, said he was convinced any unusual delay in German unification would mean no unification at all.

Marshal Bulganin said in his view the German question was not one of reunification but the direction in which a united Germany would go. Would it choose military groupings or prefer to develop on other lines?

In the Soviet view the interests of Germany demanded that a united Germany should be free from previously existing obligations or military agreements and that a united Germany should undertake not to enter any alliances or military obligations.

Marshal Bulganin said he realised it would be unrealistic to demand the abrogation of the Paris agreements to rearm West Germany in the Atlantic pact.

In his view conditions were not yet ripe for Germany to be reunited.

The problem must be settled differently and this would take a long time, Marshal Bulganin said.

On guarantees and safeguards which had been suggested by the West he would like to make it clear that these were comprehensible in the case of weak powers unable to defend themselves but unwarranted in the case of strong powers.

Marshal Bulganin said the Soviet Union could not depend on guarantees by others such as had been proposed, according to the British spokesman.

The two Germanies should gradually draw closer together in the interest of eliminating tension. This process was in fact taking place.

For example commercial negotiations were in train and exchanges of delegations were taking place.

German elections were certainly important but should be considered at the appropriate time.

President Eisenhower said he had agreed the record of this morning's meeting of the Foreign Ministers which agreed on a four-point agenda and had noted his friend Marshal Bulganin had taken exception to discussion of certain items and proposed inclusion of others.

Mr. Eisenhower said he had done the same but Marshal Bulganin had refused to discuss the items he had suggested.

Marshal Bulganin had suggested a discussion of the cold war, Mr. Eisenhower had suggested a discussion of the

satellites and of international Communism.

In the view of the United States nothing caused greater tension than these two subjects, Mr. Eisenhower said.

However, Marshal Bulganin had agreed to defer his items and he would do the same.

President Eisenhower said if Germany was to become a military vacuum it would prove a fertile ground for Hitlerite propaganda. That had always been his view. Previously this thought had been not of danger to the Soviet Union but of danger to Europe, he said.

The problem was how to draw Germany into a position where it would not be a prey to Hitlerite propaganda, unhappy, and discontented but that it should be strong but never gain power to attack.

As regards politics it was well known that in the United States there was free access to information of all kinds including military installations.

Moreover the scale of military operations was known. The executive could not declare war without the consent of Congress, the British spokesman quoted Mr. Eisenhower as saying.

### NATO DEFENSIVE

The NATO treaty was purely defensive. The military obligations of (West) Germany like those of all other NATO countries, were limited both as to maxima and minima.

## SUMMIT SIDELIGHTS

### Soviet News

#### Black-out

Geneva, July 20. The Soviet delegation at the Big Four conference is imposing a partial black-out on its own and the Soviet bloc press.

Western officials, noting this, said they believed the primary purpose was to prevent some of Marshal Bulganin's statements from being published in the Communist world.

The official Soviet press conference, purporting to give a report on yesterday's Big Four talks, gave a drastically cut version of the actual statements Marshal Bulganin made.

The western officials said the Soviet version deliberately "expurgated" statements which would not read well in the Soviet bloc press, knowing that no Soviet bloc paper would publish a Western version of the day's talks.—Router.

### Time and Place

#### For Everything

Geneva, July 19. Soviet Marshal Georgi Zhukov, sipping a tall Scotch and soda in the bar of the Palace of Nations today was suddenly called into the courtyard by one of his colleagues.

Glancing through the door, he saw that the Big Four delegates were out on the lawn being photographed.

In no case were German Forces free to act as a whole but were intertwined in the NATO system.

They could undertake no effective military operations by themselves.

The US which was an important member of NATO would in no circumstances whatever be a party to an aggressive war.

There should only be a question of war if their vital interests were attacked and only in desperate straits in which war was the only issue, Mr. Eisenhower added.

### TWO PROPOSITIONS

M. Faure, summing up, said there was a clear difference of opinion in the urgency of German question, on this he shared the British view. As regards security this was not an individual problem for each state but for all.

M. Faure said Marshal Bulganin appeared to be relying on time after an indefinite delay to work things out in the way he desired. Meanwhile he (Bulganin) contemplated a rapprochement of the two Germanies.

It was difficult to see how this would effect an improvement. How could the delay be measured?

Sir Anthony Eden said there were now two propositions put forward.

One was the old familiar one of a security pact for all (Continued on page 8 col. 8)

### But After Dinner:

## The Russians Are More Cordial

Geneva, July 20. British and Soviet leaders last night had a "very useful and serious" discussion of the German problem and European security after a dinner given by Sir Anthony Eden, at his lakeside villa here, a British delegation source said.

The source said the British Premier felt that last night's discussions had improved the atmosphere left after yesterday's session of the four Heads of Government, when East and West presented widely divergent views on German reunification.

After dinner Marshal Bulganin and Sir Anthony Eden sat together with Mr. Krushchev, Mr. Harold Macmillan, British Foreign Secretary, and Mr. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, were in another part of the room.

### Vodka Served

The source said Sir Anthony still considered the German problem was the heart of the "summit" conference and the test of the success of the meeting would be whether the two sides would be able to make "some progress" toward reunifying the country.

The atmosphere at the dinner and in the drawing room talks was cordial.

Vodka was served to the Russians as well as a liberal variety of English drinks.—Router.

## Two Planes In Mid-air Collision

Baltimore, July 19.

Two Air Force planes, a B25 bomber and a C45 transport—collided in flight 10 miles south of Baltimore today.

Two bodies were recovered from the wreckage of the C45. Their identities were not immediately known. Nor was it known how many were aboard the transport.

The two-man crew of the B25 escaped with only slight injuries after the pilot crash-landed his crippled craft some 1,000 feet from a runway at Friendship International Airport outside Baltimore.—United Press.

## James Mason Settles For \$1,000

Hollywood, July 19. Actor James Mason and his wife, Pamela Hellino, today announced an out-of-court cash settlement of their \$1,199,000 libel suit against Rave magazine.

A representative of the defendants said the settlement was for \$1,000 and "a retraction will be printed by the magazine."

The Masons contended that the article in the March issue of the magazine, accused them of immoral conduct, and was maliciously false and degrading.—Associated Press.

## Big Typhoon Reported

Tokyo, July 20. Two typhoons, the ninth and tenth of the season, were expected to lash southern Japan today, while an even larger one was heading north 600 miles south of Tokyo.

Weather observers said the diminishing force of typhoon nine and ten made it unlikely anything more serious than floods would result from them.

However, the one far to the south had 180-mile winds at its center. The Weather Bureau said it still was uncertain whether this one would hit Japan or Okinawa.—Associated Press.

### LANDLORD & TENANT ORDINANCE

## CIVIC ASSN. VIEW OF PROPOSED NEW AMENDMENTS

The Civic Association today urged Government to make the upper limit of compensation to dispossessed tenants 120 times the standard rent instead of 60 times as at present.

A spokesman for the Association said this in a statement commenting on the recent Government proposal to amend the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance. The Association criticised Government's proposal for payment of compensation to tenants for improvements on the grounds that it created a number of difficulties.

It suggested as an alternative an amendment that would allow dispossessed tenants to remove items such as partitions, interior walls, windows, bathroom or toilet fixtures and all items generally falling within the description of "landlord's fixtures" if originally installed at the tenant's expense.

### LOAN PROPOSAL

The Civic Association also urged Government to devote more attention to low-cost housing schemes and said that part of the Colony's sterling balances could be used to provide a loan for this work.

Their statement says: The Civic Association in general supports the Government proposal to clarify the payment of compensation to dispossessed tenants, and to regularise such payments which have hitherto had an unfortunate "black market" flavour.

The Civic Association considers that it is in the interest of both landlords and tenants to know broadly speaking where they stand. "Up till now almost every application for an exemption order has turned itself into a tedious 'dutch auction' with an astronomical figure asked by the sitting tenant and an equally impossible figure offered by the landlord."

"After hearings often lasting over several days, the gulf between the tenant's demand and the landlord's offer has usually been narrowed to the point where the landlord has been prepared to take his chance on a 'final offer'."

"Very recently the Tribunal has seen fit to impose upon the landlord its own views as to the compensation to be offered, although it has neither the machinery nor the necessary evidence as a rule to enable a valuation to be made of the 'damages for disturbance' involved."

The Government proposals are altogether too favourable to the

landlord's interests, but are basically sound in principle. The Civic Association considers that the upper limit of compensation should be 120 times the standard rent and not sixty times as at present. The upper limit should be reserved for the special case, and the Executive Council will know how to deal with recommendations consistently made on the basis of the upper limit. (Contd. on back page, Col. 2)

### ALPINE LAKE TURNS RED

Trent, July 19.

Most Alpine lakes are blue, but not Lake Tovel. This little lake high in the Dolomite Alps has turned red.

Scientists said its new hue has been caused by an outcropping of microscopic plant life in the lake. The lake will turn blue again later in the season.—Associated Press.

### GULF NARROWED

Bristol, July 19.

A bee flying in the car window is believed to have caused the death of a 22-year-old bride driving off on her honeymoon.

It is thought to have temporarily blinded her husband, Mr. Derek Simpson-Elliott, as they left Bristol after their wedding for Cornwall, causing his car to collide with a coach on the main road.

Mrs. Simpson-Elliott, formerly Miss Shirley Chase, was thrown against the windscreen and severely injured. She died in hospital without regaining consciousness.

Mr. Simpson-Elliott was not seriously injured.—China Mail Special.

### Emmett-Dunne May Escape The Gallows

London, July 19.

The War Office tonight indicated that Sergeant Frederick Emmett-Dunne will escape the gallows because the death penalty has been abolished in Germany.

Earlier General Sir Richard Gale, British Commander-in-Chief in Germany, confirmed the death sentence passed on the 32-year-old Irishman for killing a fellow sergeant whose widow he married.

Emmett-Dunne was tried for the murder of Sergeant Reginald Watkins, 29, by a British court martial in Germany—where a crime was committed—after a London magistrate had ruled the case could not be heard in England because the accused was a citizen of the Irish Republic.

Today the War Office announced General Gale's confirmation of the death sentence added that the British military authorities, nevertheless, would have to take account of the Bonn convention under which Britain has agreed not to carry out any sentence of death in Federal West Germany as long as such penalties are not provided by German law.

"Nor can the prisoner be brought to this country for execution," the statement added.

## Angry Wife Shot Her Husband's Girlfriend

Washington, July 19. A 32-year-old vacuum cleaner salesman told police today his wife forced him at gunpoint into an apartment of another woman and then killed her with a single pistol shot.

The wife, Mrs. Katherine Ann Haynes, 28, of Arlington, Virginia, told police the shooting was accidental. Mother of four children, ranging in age from 3 to 9, she said she is suffering from incurable cancer and that doctors have given her only a year to live.

The dead girl was identified as Nancy Penlon, 19, a clerk in a shoe repair shop.

WIFE WAS WAITING Detective Sergeant Nunzio Bonaccorso said the salesman, Willis M. Haynes, gave this account of the shooting:

He left Miss Penlon's apartment shortly after 1 o'clock on Tuesday morning only to find his wife waiting for him in a car outside.

She took a pistol from a paper bag and told him: "I want to see Nancy."

Then, training the gun on him, she forced him to march up two flights of stairs to the apartment which had been rented in the name of "Mr. and Mrs. Haynes."

When they entered the room, Miss Penlon was in bed, clad only in her pajama tops.

TOLD TO SIT DOWN Mrs. Haynes ordered her husband to sit on a couch and then shot Nancy with a .22 calibre pistol. The girl was pronounced dead an hour later at casualty hospital.

Mrs. Haynes gave a different version of the shooting, claiming Miss Penlon lunged at her and caused the pistol to discharge accidentally.—Associated Press.


## Honeymooners In Tragic Road Crash

Bristol, July 19. A bee flying in the car window is believed to have caused the death of a 22-year-old bride driving off on her honeymoon.


It is thought to have temporarily blinded her husband, Mr. Derek Simpson-Elliott, as they left Bristol after their wedding for Cornwall, causing his car to collide with a coach on the main road.

Mrs. Simpson-Elliott, formerly Miss Shirley Chase, was thrown against the windscreen and severely injured. She died in hospital without regaining consciousness.

Mr. Simpson-Elliott was not seriously injured.—China Mail Special.



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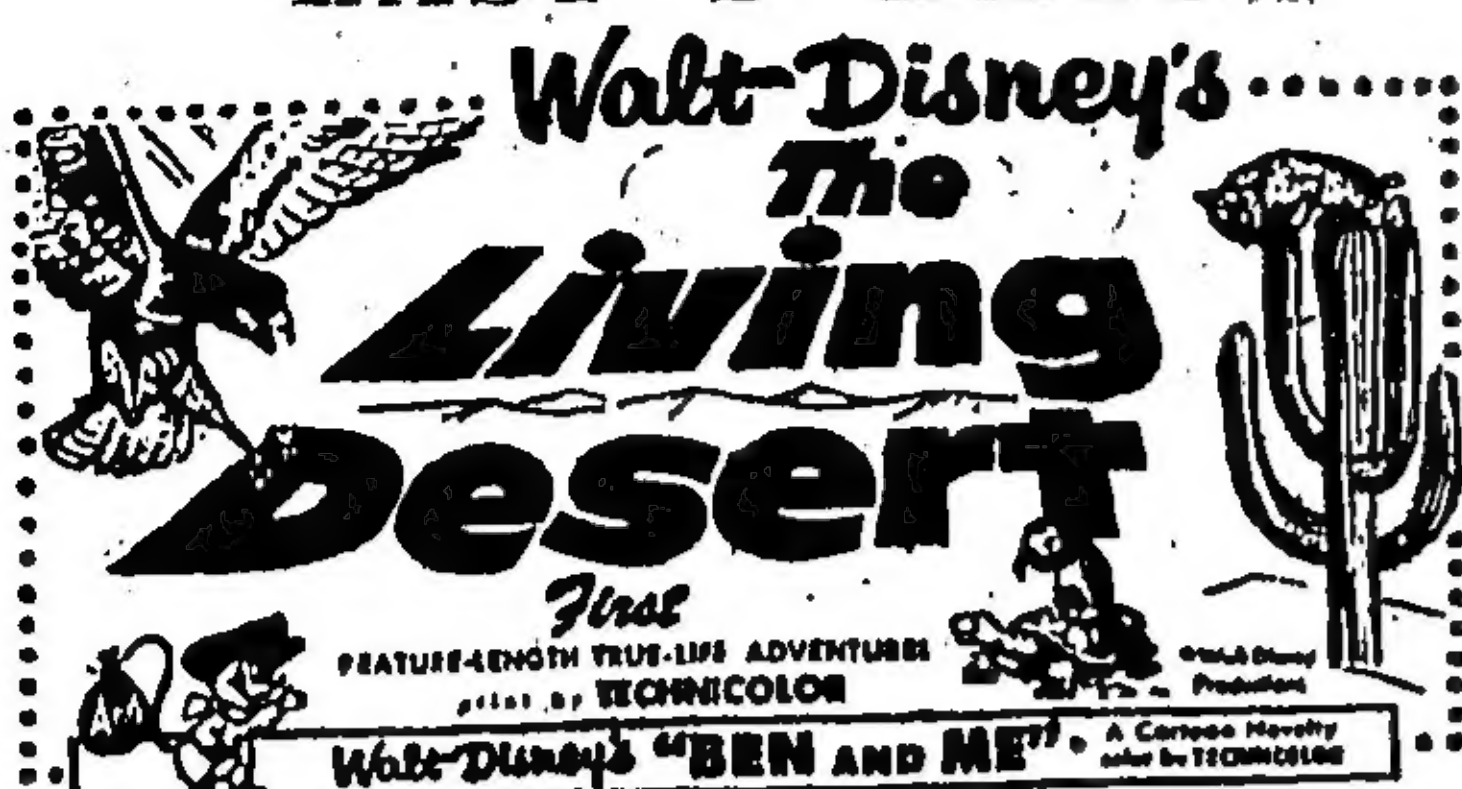
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## Toyoda Favours The Old Ways Of Destroying Opposition

By Leroy Hansen

Tokyo, July 19.

Scar-faced Takashige Toyoda, sometimes called the Hitler of Japan, said today from his underground hideout that he favours assassination of Japanese political leaders who treat the people with "serious disadvantages."

The young leader of Japan's ultra-nationalistic National Youth Martyrs Corps gave the United Press an exclusive written interview from the underground when he fled seven months ago after escaping Police who raided his downtown Tokyo headquarters.

Toyoda, who wears on his face a long scar received in a sword fight with a Korean immediately after World War II, was asked if his blue shirt organization, favoured political assassination, a practice often used by ultra-nationalists before the war.

"I will say yes," he said, "if the country and people are treated with serious disadvantages."

What about the government of Premier Hatoyama?

"At the present stage, I will not say yes or no," Toyoda said.

He did not explain what "serious disadvantages" might lead him to order assassination.

Twenty-eight-year-old Toyoda took over leadership of the Youth Corps in 1952 and now claims a membership of about 100,000 men, a figure which Government officials believe is exaggerated.

HIS "TROOPS"

He dresses his followers, whom he refers to as "troops," in blue uniforms and black combat boots.

They receive rigorous physical training, including Judo and sword play.

Toyoda, who has voiced his "immovable" opposition to communism, indicated that he may be changing his mind, particularly in relations with Red China.

"Considering the present conditions of our country," he said, "resumption of diplomatic relations with Communist China cannot be helped. But my opinion of how to negotiate cannot be put into words."

Much depends upon the United States, he said.

"I will not forget, even now," Toyoda said, "that our country-

men died as war criminals. I also will not forget that our country became weak because of our being forced to accept democracy."

CO-OPERATE

"Hereafter, if the United States wishes to benefit itself, they should co-operate with us in opposing communism."

"However, I would not rely on this. If this is impossible (US co-operation) I will have to sacrifice myself for the sake of our Motherland and our race and ask the Communist nations to co-operate with us."—United Press.

## French Admiral On Trial VICHY CABINET MEMBER

Paris, July 19.

A 61-year-old French Admiral, who was sentenced to life imprisonment "in absentia" in 1946, today went on trial before the High Court of Justice on a charge of "intelligence with the enemy" during the German occupation of France.

The Admiral, Paul Auphan, was Secretary of State for the Navy in the Cabinet of Pierre Laval. Though sentenced in 1946, he was not located and arrested until last January.

Specific charges against the grey-haired Admiral include: CHARGES

Delivery of fuel and labour to the Germans, furnishing the Germans with information on movements of Allied ships, transmitting military secrets to the Germans and giving the Germans information on the date of the Allied invasion of France.

Before a packed court—containing several naval officers in uniform who stood to attention when Auphan walked in—Auphan said he had only followed orders after having tried to persuade Marshal Petain, chief of state of the Vichy Regime, during the German occupation, to make an agreement with the Americans.

The Admiral, defending his efforts for the defence of North Africa against the Allied invasions, said he was sorry the Allies had not made an agreement with the Vichy Government before landing in North Africa.

Auphan said: "On November 11 (1942), I advised Marshal Petain to make an agreement with the Americans. I hoped for a return to the French policy in favour of the Allies."

He said that if Marshal Petain had made such an agreement he would have gone over with his fleet to the Allies.

The trial is expected to last two days.—France-Press.

Now York, July 19.

A Carson City prison warden said 230 convicts in his care staging a sit-down strike have been reading too many newspaper accounts of prison riots.

There have been recent riots in prisons in Washington State and Wyoming.—China Mail Special.

## Catholics Demonstrate



A demonstration organized by the Christian Social Committee for Freedom and Democracy took place last week in Brussels against the Bill on secondary and technical education and the rescheduling of Roman Catholic schools. It is estimated that 300,000 took part in the demonstration in the streets. Picture shows: general view showing the vast crowd taking part in the demonstration in Brussels.—Express Photo.

## Mid Ulster Seat Vacant

London, July 19.

The House of Commons has declared vacant a seat won in last May's general election at Mid Ulster, Northern Ireland, by a man disqualified from sitting because he is serving a ten-year prison sentence for treason.

The man, Mr Thomas J. Mitchell, a 23-year-old Sinn Féiner, whose party is pledged to unite Northern and Southern Ireland if necessary by force.

He was convicted and sentenced at Belfast last year for his part in a raid on a British military barracks in Northern Ireland.

The Commons decision yesterday was taken without a vote.—China Mail Special.

## No Sale For Gaol

Pais, July 19.

An auctioneer tried to sell Dornfront Prison yesterday—without success.

Local authorities who put a reserve of £1,300 sterling on the disused gaol said it would make a comfortable home with cells for guest rooms.

Now it will probably be put up for auction again. China Mail Special.

## Sheikhs Cast Doubts

Bagdad, July 19.

A criminal court in Bagdad today acquitted two religious leaders of the Sabean sect, Sheikh Sam and his brother Sheikh Faraj, on charges of having cast doubt upon the virginity of a maiden of their tribe.

The Sabians, known also as Mandaeans and in Europe as "Christians of St John the Baptist", are the survivors of a pre-Christian sect, whose beliefs are partially based on fire worship and whose folklore is linked to the magical practices of ancient Chaldeans.

EXAMINED

The maiden in question was about to be married. According to the customs of the Sabians, she had to be examined by the wives of the religious leaders.

The maidens, supported by their husbands, publicly challenged the girl's virginity. This was a serious accusation, as, if

the girl's family finds that the honour of the clan was affected, by her alleged conduct, she could be put to death.

As luck would have it, a wise man advised the family to consult a physician. His decision was unequivocal—the girl was a virgin and the marriage took place.

However, the girl's father, considering that the religious leaders had sullied the honour of the clan, filed a complaint. The criminal court acquitted the two leaders, saying that in any such examination made without scientific controls, errors were easily possible.—France Press.

## QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

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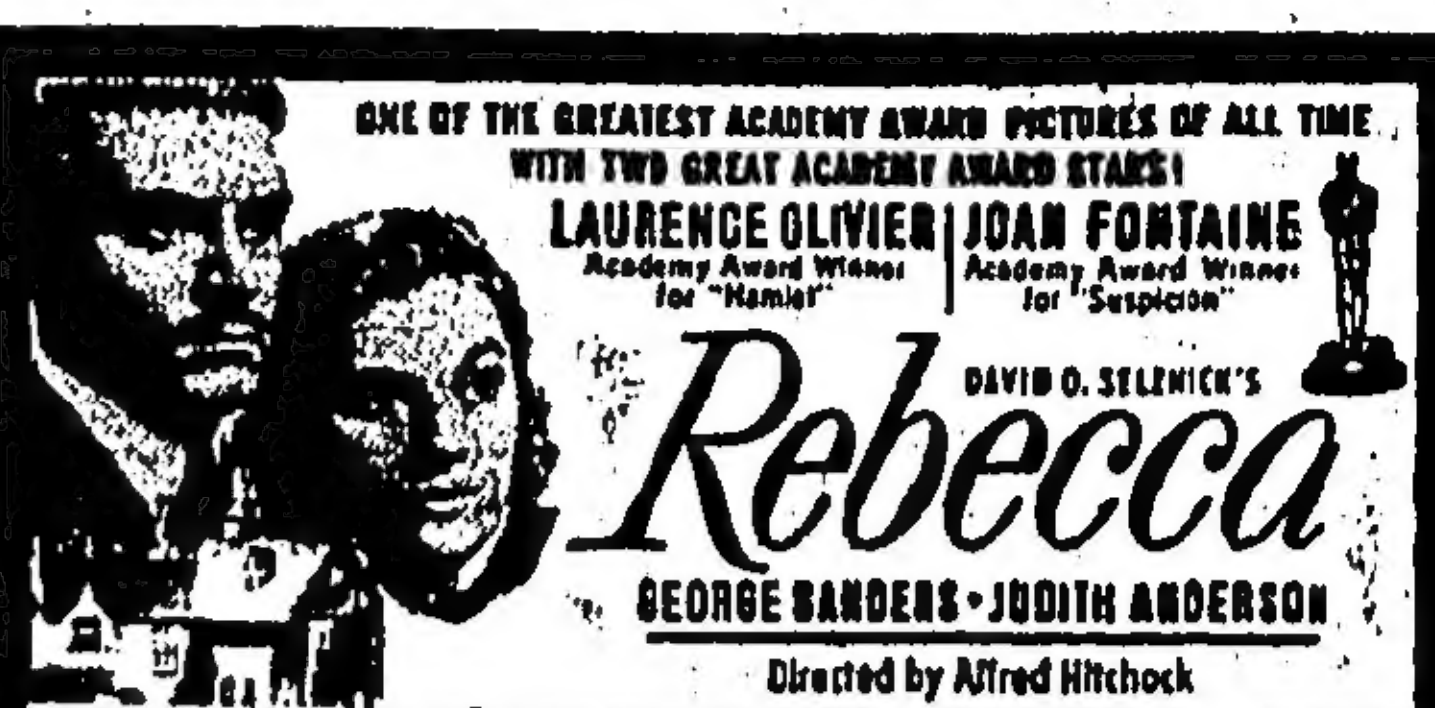
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# Nathaniel Gubbins

WHAT is my secret worry? Why do I go mooning about the Sea Neat with that old twenty-past-eight mouth?

It has nothing to do with the li-bomb. I have given up worrying about that. It has nothing to do with income tax. I have become accustomed to Governments stealing the money I might need for my old age.

My secret worry shall remain a secret no longer. It concerns the recent announcement, whether you believe it or not, that the Feverbrook Press has a higher proportion of rich, intelligent cultured and (one might assume) noble born readers than any other group of newspapers.

Therefore, in my morbid state of mind it is not surprising that I have a vision of two newspaper readers taking their holidays at the same seaside resort this morning.

The one who is reading the morning edition of the Feverbrook Press is staying at the best hotel. As you have already learned he is rich and/or cultured and/or nobly born. Possibly all three.

He has finished his breakfast and has delicately wiped the marmalade from his finely chiselled, aristocratic mouth with a spotless, shining napkin. Servile waiters, hoping for a big tip have ushered him into the sun lounge, where he reclines in a luxuriously cushioned chair and opens the only paper fit for rich and/or cultured and/or nobly born readers.

As he reads the immortal prose, savouring each thoughtfully modelled sentence, his aristocratic head nods approval and sometimes the finely chiselled mouth smiles at a witicism too subtle to be appreciated by the vulgar.

And where are my common reader and his common wife? Red with shame, I will tell you.

They are staying at Ozono a boarding house in a back street half a mile from the sea. They have finished their breakfast. They have eaten as much as possible to get their money's worth and are not

attempting to disguise evidence of indigestion.

My male common reader has not wiped the marmalade from his mouth with the paper napkin. He has blown his nose on it. And his heavy moustache is stiff with marmalade and full of crumbs and cereals.

There is no sun lounge for them. They have walked the dreary half-mile to the sea. They are on the bench. The common woman has taken off her common holiday shoes. She is going to "paddle" to ease her common bunions.

The common man has folded his common jacket to make a seat for himself, disclosing his common red braces. He is now opening the paper to read this common column, though it is doubtful if the common clot will understand a word of it.

## At The Bootmakers

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself Old Fogey has written to an editor saying that he wears his old hat for years and years because he is frightened of the superior attitudes of some of the younger West End haters.

Although I think he is a silly old fogey to worry about a new hat at his age, he has my sympathy because I am terrified of the hatter myself. He takes your old titter, the filthy thing you love so much, gingerly in his clean hands and glances casually at the maker's name. If it happens to be his own you may get off with a severe look for wearing a good hat so long.

If it happens to be the name of another and cheaper hatter he gives you the same kind of look a valet at the old ancestral home would give to a guest wearing gent's natty suitings. He then holds it under the light, notes the grease spots and the dust and backs away from it as if it might explode.

He has now worked a psychological trick on you. Ashamed to wear the insubstantial thing he despises you will be glad to buy anything and get out of the place with something on your head.

My most embarrassing moment occurred not in a hatter's shop but in the establishment of London's leading bootmaker.

It was an establishment where they made boots to measure, to last a lifetime and at a price I could hardly afford. At the time it represented a whole week's wages.

The manager, who wore morning dress and pearl grey spats, took one look at my shabby tweeds and had to make up his mind quickly whether I was a tramp or an eccentric millionaire. I think he must have decided that I was a tramp because he warned me about the cost.

When I agreed to it he bowed me to a chair and a footstool. Then he mapped his fingers and two slaves in leather aprons appeared. They dropped on their knees on either side of me and wrestled gently with the knotted laces of my old, unpolished shoes.

They finished their unlacing in a dead-heat, removed my shoes and, disclosing two bare toes showing through my undarned socks.

"Shall we take the measurements, sir?" asked the manager. I said no, I had changed my mind.

"I thought you might, sir," he said. At a motion from him the slaves put on my shoes again. "Good morning," I said to the manager, "and thank you."

"Thank you, sir," he said, brushing his hands together like a man who had performed an unpleasant task.

## Uncle Nat, Baby-Sitter

NOW that the fees for baby-sitting have gone up to 15s. a night I hereby offer my services, particularly to the desperate young couple who promise "a stiff night-cap to male sitters on duty after 11 p.m."

My qualifications are that I am a father, a grandfather and a godfather. Although I must admit I am not always sure which end of a small baby is which—I once gagged a baby with a nappy—I can handle infants without dropping or breaking them, and can even entertain them if I allow small fingers to be pushed up my nostrils.

I am also fairly honest, sober when given responsibility, and have no followers.

Moreover, I can say that even if most babies scream or have fits at the first sight of me, they grow accustomed to my appearance. When they have been sick once over my shoulder—if I can get them into that position in time—we usually get quite chummy.

My chief difficulty with babies is feeding them, because most babies of my acquaintance have their meals outside their faces. In fact, I have often wondered how they get nourished at all.

There was an occasion when I tried to feed a little girl with porridge. I got the first spoonful into her mouth. The next time she turned her head suddenly and the porridge went into her left ear.

Although most people would dislike an earful of porridge this little girl loved it so much that she offered her right ear for the same treatment. When both ears were full of porridge I abandoned a hopeless task, handed over the spoon and told the child to feed herself.

Within a few minutes her face was a mask of porridge. It was not only in her ears but in her eyes, up her nose, all over her hair, down her neck, and anywhere but in her mouth. She ended her disgusting meal by pouring the rest over her head and crowning herself with the basin.

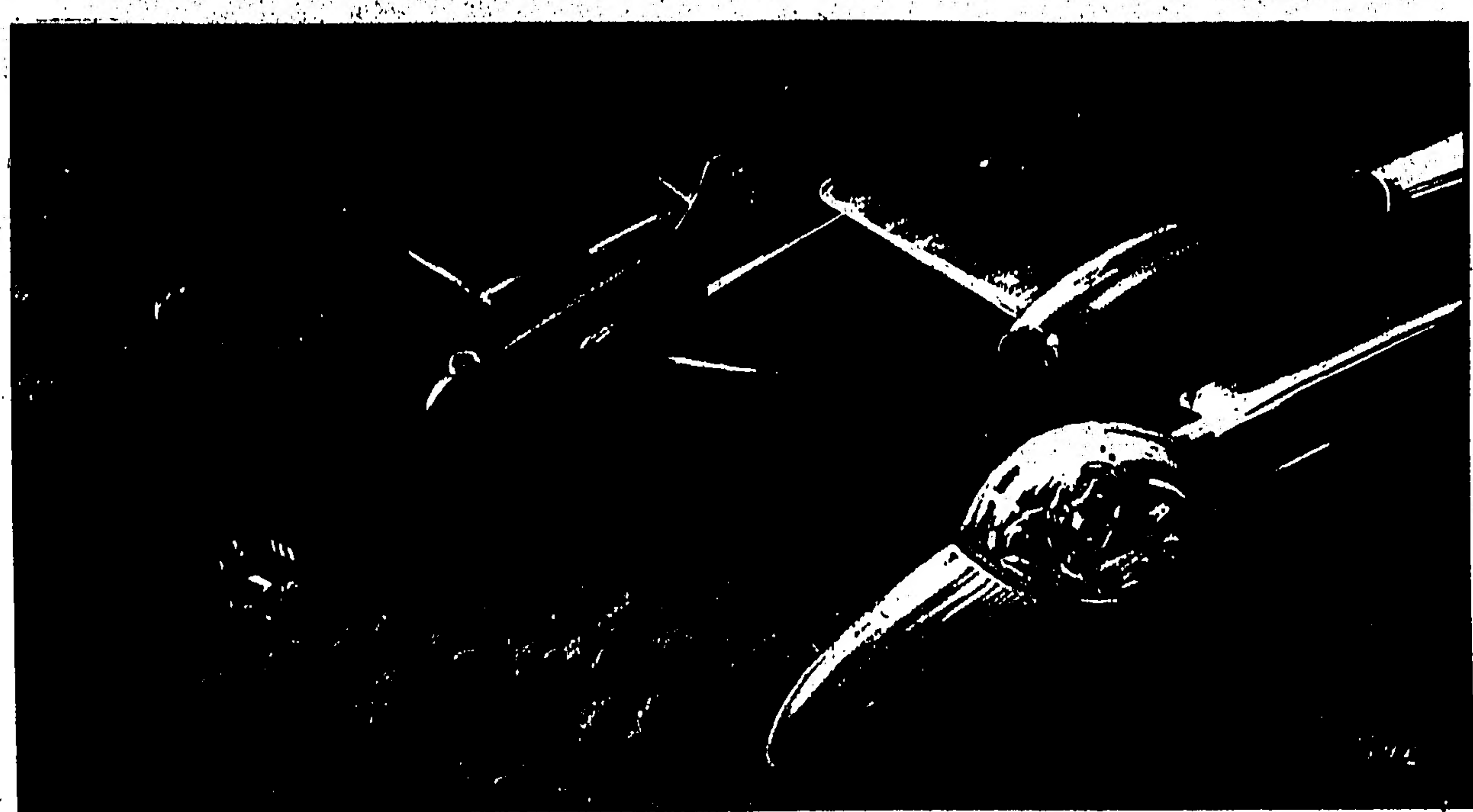
It was then that the porridge queen took a sudden fancy to an uncle who didn't bother about the rules. She tottered round the table and flung her porridge arms round my neck. It was an embrace I shall never forget.

## POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"The trouble is, whenever I do come I meet such extraordinary people!"



"Wait till that last Bod's put his light out and gone to sleep, then BANG through the sound barrier by accident!" London Express Service

# A mission for Odette...

● A pact made with Odette in the shadow of death... another story in our FACT or FICTION series. Did this really happen? tomorrow the answer will be published.



The American, who spoke German, asked the questions.

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HONGKONG KOWLOON

CAPTAIN PETER CHURCHILL'S story in this series set me thinking of the first and only time I met his wife, Odette. It was after a lecture she gave in York last year. And meeting her transported me, in imagination, back to Austria, back to my strange quest for an unknown woman who had made a pact with Odette in the shadow of death.

And since Odette Churchill is not the woman to break faith, I had found myself on what seemed to be a wild goose chase. I did not know where the woman was living.

## Six years ago...

I could not even be certain if she was living. I knew only her name and the few details I had just been told, over a glass of beer on a remote frontier platform, by a man I had never met before.

After Odette's lecture, I asked to be introduced to her.

"Mrs Churchill," I said bluntly, "do you remember Frau Knopf?"

"She was taken aback for a moment. 'Frau Knopf?' she repeated. Then, 'Of course, in Ravensbruck. Then you must be...'

## Cloak and dagger

This, then, is the story of Odette and Frau Knopf. I played only a very minor role. It was just the postman. The first I heard of it was when the telephone rang in my office in Klagenfurt one May morning in 1948. I was an Army public relations officer in Austria, and my chief at the War Office was on the line.

"I've got rather a peculiar mission for you, Cousin," he said. "It's too complicated to tell you about now. You will get full details from Major R. He's on his way to Trieste and you are to meet him on the station platform at Beebach. Carry out his instructions to the letter and report back to me when you're done."

He told me the train I had to meet, and I was packing up and down the platform a good hour

before it came in. This cloak and dagger routine was not at all the kind of work I was accustomed to in my job.

All personnel bound for Trieste had to change at See-

bach, but in spite of the crowd on the tiny platform I soon found my man.

Most of the troops made their way to the transit camp. A solitary major remained standing by his compartment.

I saluted.

"Major R—?"

We exchanged identity cards and went off to the bar for a drink. From his pocket Major R—produced a tiny package.

It measured two or three inches on each side, and was heavily sealed. On the top was written the name: Frau Mathilde Knopf.

"Your job is to locate Frau Knopf," he told me, "and deliver this package to her personally. We don't know her address, but she is almost certainly in the American zone of Austria. Take care of it—it's worth £1,000—and don't open it until you've traced her. You are not to break the seal until she has described the contents."

"But what on earth are the contents?"

## Her story

"A ring," I think the major was enjoying his part in the affair and the look of mystification on my face as I repeated "A ring?"

Major R—told me the bare outlines of the single history, and Odette gave me the missing details at York last year. She and Frau Knopf were prisoners together in the hell of Ravensbruck concentration camp. They did not know each other well. Odette was not able to mix much with other prisoners. But they had a "talk one day and Frau Knopf, a tall, greying, rather reserved woman, with a great air of dignity about her, told Odette a little of her story.

Her husband was a professor, who had refused to compromise with the regime. Her own family was Jewish and came originally from Rumania. Even in the heavily-guarded confines of the torture camp the Nazis could not keep from the prisoners the news of German defeats, and it was obvious that the end of the war was ap-

proaching. Frau Knopf did not expect to survive.

Transports of prisoners were still being taken to the gas chambers. Her turn, she thought, was imminent.

"But I have a feeling that you will come through," she told Odette. "And I would like you to do me a favour."



by  
W. F.  
Cousins

THIS is the second story about Odette Churchill in the Did It Happen? series. The first was by her husband. This one is told by Captain W. F. Cousins, who was an Army PRG in Austria from 1946 to 1953, when he returned to England with his wife, the daughter of a Hungarian baroness, and their son, born in Vienna. Although he was demobilised last year, Captain Cousins is still in close touch with the Army—on the staff of Soldier magazine.

She looked round to make sure they were not being watched. And then she produced the ring. It had been with her throughout her imprisonment. Somehow she contrived to hide it whenever she was searched. It was all that remained of her former life, her one tangible link.

"I want you to keep it for me," she told Odette. "If I survive, you send it back to me. If not—"

Odette asked, "I'm the last person. Find someone who's not under sentence of death. I shall never get out."

"They won't kill you now," the woman said. "The war will soon be over and they'll think twice before they murder any more British subjects. Please take it. I know I can depend on you."

## Miraculous

Almost against her better judgment Odette allowed herself to be persuaded. Her own situation was desperate, but the older woman's faith gave her renewed hope. And when she was removed from Ravensbruck, she concealed the ring and took it with her, in spite of the danger to herself if it should ever be discovered.

I kept fingering the package in my pocket as the train took me to Salzburg, headquarters of the American zone. Army red tape, which had been so miraculously cut to send me on my mission, was now making it almost impossible for me to complete it.

I had only four days in which to do the job. Currency restrictions were severe. I needed dollars to stay in the American

zone, and the official allowance for a British officer on duty was only three dollars a day. After much argument I had managed to secure a paltry 12 dollars—12 dollars that stood between Frau Knopf and destitution.

For that, Odette had at last discovered her situation. Back in London after the war, surrounded by her family, her friends, her colleagues, acclaimed as a heroine and overwhelmed by the honours she had earned, Odette was tortured by her memory of the tall, dignified woman who had asked her a favour in Ravensbruck.

## Broken health

Was she alive? Odette made inquiries and found she had been moved to another camp. She got on to the track of ex-prisoners who had survived that camp, and discovered that at the end of the war, Frau Knopf had escaped the gas chamber. Moreover, she had been reunited with her husband.

At that stage, Odette sought the help of the War Office. Through their own channels they traced Frau Knopf and her husband as far as an address near Salzburg. There the trail ended. The professor and his wife had been living in complete poverty. Old, their health broken, their home gone, the professor without work. Presumably they had no longer been able to afford the room to which they had been traced.

It had taken a long time for the War Office to elicit these facts by remote control. Odette decided to delay no longer. It was not easy for civilians to move from one zone to another at that time. The probability was that they were still in the American zone.

## Threadbare

All this I explained to the British liaison officer in Salzburg. He called in an American Counter-Intelligence officer, who in turn summoned the German agent. It did not take their combined efforts long to trace a Frau Mathilde Knopf. Was she the right one? She was asked to report to the British liaison office at two o'clock on my second day in Salzburg.

She was dressed in black. Her clothes were threadbare. She was still tall, but thin, and stooping. Her hair, while her face deeply lined, life had dealt harshly with her and left its traces.

She seemed nervous as she faced us, looking rather official, I suppose, in our various uniforms. Nervous, yes, but resigned, too, and bitter. She had faced so many officers, so many uniforms in her life. Well, what did they want this time? I felt she did not greatly care.

The American, who spoke German, asked the questions.

Had she been a prisoner at Ravensbruck? She nodded.

Had she met a woman there called Odette? A slight pause. Then another nod. Yes, she remembered Odette.

Did she, during her imprisonment, hand something of great value to Odette?

"Yes, a ring."

## Old-fashioned

For the first time there was a trace of animation, but it was only momentary. She was wary, and seemed to be asking herself, "Why do they want to know?" But she answered, "Yes, a ring."

The American turned to me. "She seems to be your Mrs Knopf," he said. "Satisfied?"

"Ask her to describe the ring," I said. "Better still, ask her to draw it if she can."

She was given a pad and a pencil. She described the ring with its elaborate, old-fashioned setting, as she sketched it, making a little dot for each diamond. I counted 13 dots.

## Wrecked years

At last I was able to open the package. I felt her eyes on it as I broke the seal and removed, from its bed of cotton-wool, an elaborate gold ring set with 13 diamonds. I heard her give a little cry as it flashed in the spring sunlight coming through the window, while I compared it with the drawing she had made.

Yes, it was the right Frau Knopf, no question of that. And when I got back to Klagenfurt and sent my terse signal, "Mission completed," to the War Office, I could still see the look in her eyes, obscured though it was by tears, a look I have seen only on that single occasion. It was not just the financial value of the ring, and the food and lodging it would buy. It was the look of hope, long abandoned, and now restored.

While I was holding out the ring to her across the desk, Frau Knopf looked back, over the window, while I compared it with the drawing she had made. It was not just the financial value of the ring, and the food and lodging it would buy. It was the look of hope, long abandoned, and now restored.

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## DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

YES NO

Put your tick in the space above and keep this panel by you until tomorrow when the answer will be given—with another story in this series by...

Colin Wilson

Our past history is a record of the lives of the great men of the world. The answer is...











## PRINCE HAL REFUSES A JUMP

London, July 19. Miss Pat Smythe, Britain's leading horsewoman, was beaten by 19-year-old Miss Dawn Palethorpe, another British rider, in the International Horse Show here tonight.

Miss Palethorpe, on Earlsrath Rambler, won the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup. Miss Smythe was eliminated when her prominent international jumper, Prince Hal, refused a jump and unseated her.

Miss Smythe, however, won the Imperial Cup, an international speed jumping competition, on Planigan. — China Mail Special.

## Golf Association Warns U.S. Amateur Players

New York, July 19. American amateur golfers are being warned "The National Championships should not be exploited as stepping stones to professionalism."

The United States Golf Association announces that it is sending a note to entrants in the Men's and Women's National Amateur Championships telling them: "We feel that a Champion should not disqualify himself before defending his title."

"In accepting your entry, the USGA Executive Committee understands that it is your intention to continue to be an amateur. If we are mistaken, please inform us immediately so that your entry may be withdrawn."

"There was a proper place for professionalism, but the line between amateur and professional should be clear in fairness to both."

The note defines an amateur as "One who plays golf solely as a non-commercial or non-profit making sport." — China Mail Special.

## Engine Trouble Stops Campbell In Record Bid

Ullswater, England, July 19. Water speed ace Donald Campbell pushed his turbo-jet speedboat Bluebird to 110 miles per hour Tuesday night as he prepared to attack the world record.

Then came an engine failure and Campbell abandoned his attempt for the day.

"I could have cried," the 33-year-old son of the late Sir Malcolm Campbell said. "There was the beautiful lake and there was nothing we could do about it. Now it is too dark."

American Stanley Sayres set the world water speed record of 178.497 miles per hour on Lake Washington three years ago. — Associated Press.

## Sports Diary

### TODAY

Open Pala Championship: Matches at HKFC, KDC, Rereiro, CCC, Tinkoo, KDCG.

Swimming

HKASA Executive Committee S.C.M. Post Boarding at 5.15 p.m. Nanyang Swimming Gala at Tamar Pool, commencing 2.30 p.m.

St. George's School Swimming Gala, at Victoria Pool commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Girl Guides Association Swimming Gala, LITE pool, commencing at 6 p.m.

### TOMORROW

Meeting

Amateur Sports Federation & O.C. Meeting at SCMP Boardroom, 6.30 p.m.

### FRIDAY

Athletics

HKASA Annual General Meeting at Education Dept. 9.30 p.m.

Bowls

Open Pala Championship: Matches at CCC, KDCG, HKFC, Rereiro, TC. (2nd round).

Golf

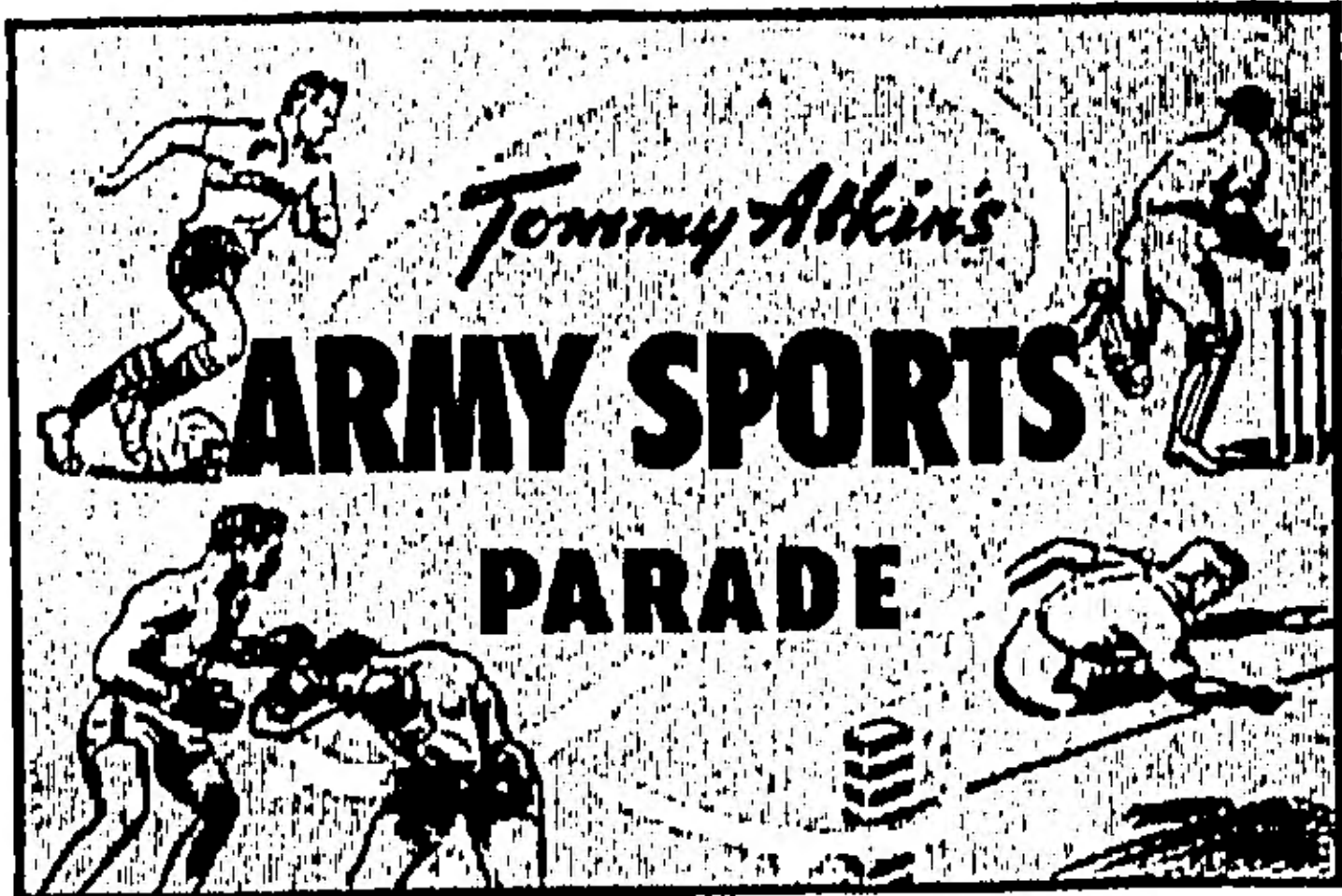
Ladies' Fournoon, Deep Water Bay, First Round.

## SPORTS



"Hot weather like this I hire a deputy clothes minder from a local store."

London Express Service.



As far as Hongkong is concerned cricket is temporarily out of season but surely there will be little surprise and still less concern, that we should have three cricketers in the Spot of Honour at the Top of the Sports Parade this week.

Welcome then to Major Howard Dobson, Lt. Pritchard and Pte. Buddy Carnell, and congratulations to them on their fine cricketing contributions for the Hongkong Services against the Singapore Services in the first of the recently revived series of games.

Major Howard Dobson with 73 and Lt. Pritchard with 110 wielded their bats to excellent purpose during their second turn at the wicket, and young Carnell confirmed all the good things that had been said about his bowling by collecting 7 wickets for 33 runs.

According to reports now received in the Colony it would appear certain that the visit of the Hongkong cricketers to Singapore has been a most popular event in the cricket calendar of our near neighbours and there seems little doubt that strenuous efforts will now be made to establish the match as a regular affair, probably with the opposing sides travelling in alternate years.

### JOB ON THEIR HANDS

If all reports that are circulating around the town are to be taken seriously it looks as though the organisers of the Pairs Tournament in the American Bowling Alley at the China Fleet Club are going to have a job on their hands getting the competition through to its final stages.

This is not a reflection on the organising ability of those in charge but it is in fact quite the reverse, for it seems that they have stimulated interest to such an extent that wherever one turns there is information available that this couple and that couple have entered, or intend to enter, for the Tiger Trophy.

This Alley game is certainly catching on among those members of the Army who can get to the China Fleet Club in the evening... and as one of them eloquently remarked "...the skittles thing isn't so easy..."

It seems only like yesterday since we were in the midst of the finals of the various winter competitions and now here we are with news of the Land Forces Swimming and Diving Championships already in our hands. How the time flies... but relax would-be-competitors, you still have plenty of time before the big event starts.

The 1955 Championships have been scheduled for September 23, at 3 p.m. but preliminaries will be held on the preceding Tuesday.

The full programme of events is as follows:

400 yards Free Style.  
100 yards Back Stroke.  
Diving—1 metre Spring Board.  
100 yards Free Style.  
100 yards Free Style (Women's Services).  
100 yards Breast Stroke.  
200 yards Free Style.  
Diving—3 metre Firm Board (Women's Services).  
3 x 2 lengths Medley Relay Back, Breast and Free Style.  
Diving—5 metre Firm Board.  
4 x 2 lengths Free Style Relay.

### INDIVIDUAL BASIS

The Championships will be run on an individual basis and all competitors who get through to the Finals will score points for their units.

The general rules for the running of the various events and the Championships generally have been circulated to units but in order to prevent any misunderstanding I should like to point out to intending competitors that during the preliminaries they will be lined up and the six fastest times will go forward to the finals irrespective of their placing in their particular heat.

This means that a very fast third will get promotion to the final over a slower winner in another heat.

Such an arrangement is of course admirable for it means that every competitor has to give of his very best from the start and it also ensures that potential Champions do not eliminate each other to the benefit of less accomplished performers.

Limitation of entries as far as individuals are concerned will ensure that absolutely fair competition is the order of the day. No competitor can enter for more than three individual events. This ruling includes diving but does not include the relays.

Entries must be forwarded to the S.O.P.T. by August 31. As in former years these Land Forces Championships are once again the stepping stones to the FARELE Championships.

Queen Anne, they say, is dead, but the memory of her lingers on; it was on Saturday, August 11, 1711, nearly 244 years ago, that she drove over from Windsor Castle to watch the first race ever run on Ascot course.

From then on, apart from wars and railway strikes, Royal Ascot has never looked back.

Admittedly, there was a slight hitch in 1939, when the ailing George IV decreed that "common fellows" must not run a horse in the Gold Cup. And since by "common fellows" he meant all those who were not members of the Jockey, Brooks's or White's Clubs, this almost Bevanesque generalisation reduced the field to four in that year and two in the next.

### A STONE

However the new King William IV wisely threw the race open to the public in the same year as, strangely enough, a one-legged naval pensioner threw a stone at him and got sentenced to be hung, drawn and quartered, which sentence was later reduced at the wish of the King, who had probably had a good week, to transportation for life.

Thereafter, all was well again and evidently even Queen Victoria was not unused to racing for in her enthusiasm to follow the fortunes of the horses in the race she said that she pressed her Royal forehead so hard against the window of the Royal Box that it went through the glass. And, as everybody knows, her present Majesty is no less enthusiastic than her great-

NOW EVERYTHING HAS A 1955 LOOK — BUT  
WHATEVER IS CHANGED OR IMPROVED IT IS STILL

## ROYAL ASCOT

by  
William  
Douglas Home

great-grandmother, though, let us hope, more careful.

### UNIQUE

Indeed, it is to Royal enthusiasm and Royal Patronage that Ascot owes its unique position in the racing calendar, and, especially, it is because of the special personal interest taken in racing by the late King George VI that Ascot has now become the most palatial racecourse in the world.

For he it was who appointed the Duke of Norfolk to be his Representative at Ascot and Major John Crocker Bulteel, DSO, MC (recently he deservedly became Sir John), to be Clerk of the Course. For what these two haven't done to Ascot is nobody's business, or, to put it more simply, what they have done is everybody's business.

Take the Royal Enclosure, that exclusive stand first reserved by King George IV, for his personal friends, and since become a Mecca for many and an unattainable ideal for many more.

### AT REST

Well, the firm of Norfolk and Bulteel, "Racecourse Renova-

tors," have enlarged it beyond all recognition. Consequently, feet which for one reason or another (usually one) used to slog resentfully up and down the tunnel between the Paddock and the Grand Stand will now be at rest in their thousands on the turf of what used to be the old last furlong of the course, while around the Royal Box will be a few yards of turf enclosed by a light rail into which the Queen, in accordance with the original and sensible plan of her ancestor, King George IV, will be able to sit her friends, if she so desires.

And it is not only the Royal Enclosure that has changed. Tattersalls is bigger and better; indeed so much bigger that the new lawn between the course and the bookmakers' stand could easily accommodate a cricket match. And as for the Silver Ring, I honestly believe that it could accommodate a game of polo without feeling cramped.

### PRIZE MONEY

In fact, the whole project is done on a tremendous scale and done, what's more, by a self-supporting solvent Ascot Authority, as the controlling body is called. For, apart from the normal Totalisator grant, available to every racecourse, Ascot gets no financial charity, but instead earns every penny of its income and spends it on prize-money



"I had visualised the Duke and Sir John sitting in the sand pit..."

and on improvements for the benefit of the public, which is, after all, the basis of a sound economy.

Take the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes, the richest race in the whole English calendar, worth £23,630 to the winner this year of which the Ascot Authority add £20,000 every year to whatever entrance forfeits have been paid.

In most big races—the Derby is one—most of the prize-money is contributed in forfeits by wretched owners who have had to enter their yearlings almost before they are foaled.

With this Ascot race entries do not close until May 3, of the year in which the race is run—only a few weeks before the start. The best horses in Europe are thus attracted. Well, no wonder the race is popular

with owners and the public, and, I don't doubt, with the horses.

### RESERVED

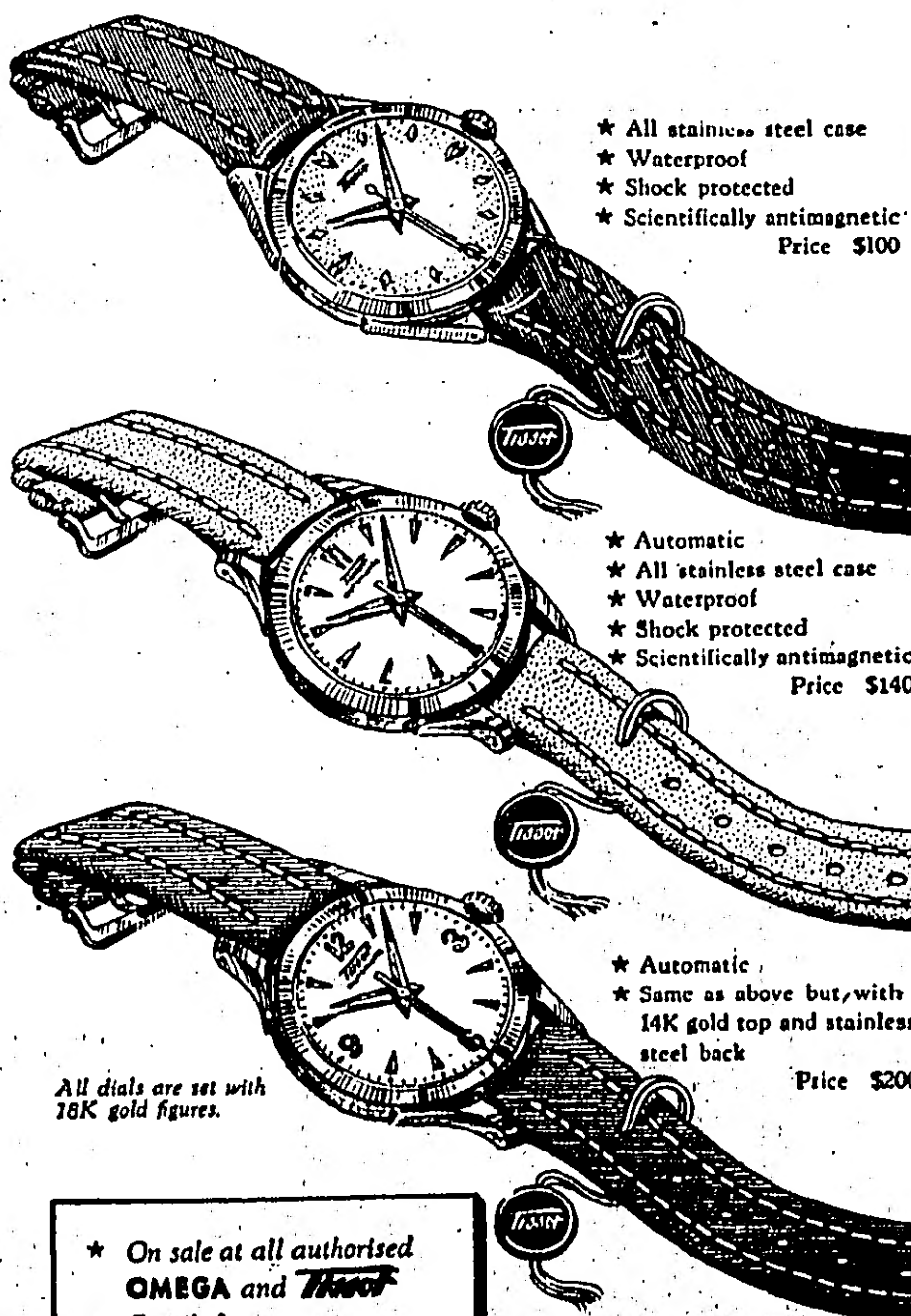
And not content with all these things the Duke and Sir John have even provided, at the end of the Silver Ring, a creche, complete with a sand-pit and a small space reserved for children under two.

Indeed my only regret about the whole affair, is the statement that "children cannot be fed by the Ascot Authority while in the creche." What a pity! I had visualised the Duke of Norfolk and Sir John sitting in the sand-pit, bottles in hand, and nappy-pins stuck in the laps of their tail-coats, attending to the little ones.

But, there, one cannot have everything. And if, as they say, enough is as good as a feast, well, then, the children will not want feeding anyway.

(London Express Service)

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## Malaria Scourge In Pacific

Melbourne, July 19. One of the difficulties facing research workers fighting the malaria-carrying mosquito in the islands of the southwest Pacific is that no check can be kept on the number of native victims contracting malaria.

This is one of the findings of a scientist who, after three years' survey work in Papua, New Guinea, the British Solomon Islands, New Guinea and Northern Australia, has called for a campaign to educate local administrations to check the disease and also ask for the granting of more money for research.

He is Dr Robert H. Black, an authority on tropical diseases at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Sydney, and a member of a medical research unit which completed the first section of a comprehensive report which he undertook for the South Pacific Commission composed of the governments of Australia, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Britain and the United States. He showed in his report that until malaria is brought under control it will continue to kill babies and adults, sap the vitality of indigenous peoples, restrict local economic development and prevent the emigration of non-indigenous to open up vast untouched resources.

### POTENT FACTOR

The mosquito that carries malaria could also be a potent factor in loss or victory in a war, he said.

Dr Black's report said that it had been stated that one of the main reasons why the Japanese did not reach Port Moresby was the heavy malaria casualties which they suffered.

Going back further, he said that in the 1914-18 war Australian troops suffered severely and the lesson was learned that quinine was not an effective suppressive drug unless taken in doses amounting to continuous therapy.

In the second world war Australian and Allied troops were to learn of the inefficiency of quinine. When atabrin became available, the Japanese indigenous population was able to live in the highly malarious area with a very low incidence of malaria.

Before it showed its full effect, however, the taking of daily suppressive atabrin had to be made a matter of military discipline.

In the latter part of the campaign United States forces were able to discontinue suppression because mosquito larval control had been gained in some bases. The thoughts of many Australians concerning the migration to New Guinea, Dr Black said, were vividly coloured with recollections of unpleasant wartime experiences. Malaria was one of the chief factors which influenced them against returning to the islands.

In an assessment of the social and economic effects of malaria in the Southwest Pacific, Dr Black said that it had been shown that personal prophylaxis by Europeans using antimalarial drugs can be successful if there is sufficient self and family discipline.

### HEAVY EXPENDITURE

The total of sickness and deaths of native peoples in the area was unknown but the cost of keeping a patient in a native hospital was a heavy expenditure on preventable disease.

Other points in his assessment included:

Malaria interfered with the education of children and imposed later health handicaps. Malaria contributed to malnutrition by the denial to inhabitants of certain areas of certain methods of food production because they were sources of infection or would provide additional breeding sites. Malaria could incapacitate a labour force by 15 per cent at any one time.

Malaria increased infantile mortality. Dr Black said that some of the lessons in malaria control learnt during the war had been applied in post-war years. Modern drugs had been used for suppression by Europeans but quinine was still used by many and there was no regularity of consumption by those who used such drugs as paludrine, chloroquine, daraprim and carogila. A pilot project using DDT as a residual spray had been commenced in Netherlands New Guinea.

### CLOSE LIAISON

Close liaison was being kept with Netherlands New Guinea and it was thought that complete control throughout Papua and New Guinea could be obtained within five years by the use of residual spraying methods.

Dr Black said that top priority should be given to the education of administrators on the seriousness of malaria to native peoples. — China Mail Special.

# TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

## COPPER PRICE REMAINS SPLIT

### £50 Difference Between Rhodesian Organisations

London, July 19.

Rhodesian copper remains at a split price: the Rhodesian Selection Trust group supplies its regular customers at its fixed price of £280 while the Rhodesia Anglo American group, selling on the basis of the fluctuating London Metal Exchange price, has been getting about £50 a ton more.

So long as the RST goes on selling at the fixed price, or indeed at any other than the LME basis, the split is likely to continue. The Rho-Anglo group is undoubtedly aware of the case for price stabilisation in principle. Market conditions since the RST introduced its scheme must have reinforced Rho-Anglo's views, expressed earlier this year, that a fixed price scheme for copper is simply impractical in present conditions.

The RST scheme seems to have created at least as many headaches as it has cured. Were it not for the obvious desirability of holding the original fixed price of £280 for as long as possible, it might have been raised before this date. Indications are that both labour and the royalty-owners (The British South African Company — "Chartered") will insist on their returns being based on the higher open-market price instead of the lower stabilised price. For labour, the "copper price bonus" at present amounts to about 70 per cent of the basic wage and it is difficult for the RST workers to agree to accept a lower bonus while their fellow workers in the Rho-Anglo group are getting a higher one.

Royalties pose the same problem. Discussions have no doubt been held with Chartered, and may still be continuing. To some extent they may turn on the definition of what is the price "realised" for copper. But it is obviously difficult for Chartered to apply one basis to a half of the output and a different and appreciably lower basis to the other half.

Rho-Anglo cannot have any love of wide price fluctuations for their own sake, nor any desire for prices so high and unstable as to embroil its customers and to weaken copper's competitive position. Its parent company, the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, is no exception.

If, for any reason, the market price fell below the fixed price, the latter would have to go. Fixed prices do not stay fixed, since they sometimes have to be changed. Their changes are less frequent than in the open market, but they tend to be larger when they do occur.

Over recent years, the swing towards aluminium has been due to its freer supply rather than to its lower price. Arbitrary lowering of the copper price would reduce the stimulus to enlarging the supply and would increase the demand which already cannot be fully met.

For some purposes, consumers will prefer copper, almost regardless of price. For other purposes copper could not compete with aluminium even at a half of its present price or lower. By arbitrarily lowering copper prices, producers would merely forego some earnings without enlarging copper's field. Whatever its imperfections, the London Metal Exchange is still the only world market for copper. It would be much wiser to try to improve the barometer than to discard it.

In fine, the Rho-Anglo and Anglo American view seems to be that, at present, fixation of a copper price in conflict with the pressure of demand would be not only impractical but impossible. — China Mail Special.

## World Cotton Markets

New York, July 19.

Cotton futures moved lower today in moderately active dealings.

The market was dull in early dealings with prices slightly higher on trade and commission house buying. Most traders stood aside awaiting Government action on a cotton programme for next season.

However, prices dropped below their previous close around noon on liquidation which came from New Orleans and local traders.

Further liquidation and hedging in the afternoon extended the losses with the selling attributed to a special story by a Washington columnist declaring that in about 5 or 6 days the Commodity Credit Corp. will announce the release of all its surplus cotton on the world market to be sold between Aug. 1, 1955 and Aug. 1, 1956.

At present, the CCC owns outright 1,050,000 bales and probably will own another 4,000,000 bales as the 1955 harvest falls due. Last year it released only 134,000 bales.

Market men say the contemplated release will have the effect of pushing already depressed world cotton prices even lower. World cotton prices now are 10 per cent lower than American prices.

Trading volume and open interest in the Exchange today were:

	Month	Volume	Open Interest
July	July	27,000	496,000
August	August	31,000	688,000
September	September	24,000	220,000
October	October	21,000	310,000
November	November	11,000	122,000
December	December	2,300	14,000
Total		146,300	2,143,000 bales

### NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	34.00
October	33.50-34.00
December	33.00
March	32.50
May	32.00
July	31.50
October	31.00
December	30.50

### NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.40
October	32.50-33.00
December	32.00
March	31.50
May	31.00
July	30.50
October	30.00
December	29.50

### LIVERPOOL

Future closings, American middling, in pence per lb. were as follows:

July/August	30.72
October/November	29.72
December	29.22
March/April	28.72
May/June	28.22

### SAO PAULO

Futures closings, in cruzeiros per kilo were as follows:

October	33.70
December	33.20
March	32.70
May	32.20
July	31.70
September	31.20

The average price of 19/16 middling at ten designated spot markets was unavailable today.

Sales at nine designated centres totalled 5,200 bales. — United Press.

### Shell Oil Co.

Shell Oil Co. 90%

Saint Peter's Paper 0%

Shanghai 0%

South Pacific 0%

Southern National Gas 0%

Standard Oil of Ind. 0%

Standard Oil of N.J. 0%

Standard Oil of Ohio 0%

Standard Oil of Texas 0%

Standard Oil of Virginia 0%

Standard Oil of West. 0%

Standard Oil of Wisconsin 0%

Standard Oil of Wyoming 0%

Standard Oil of Alaska 0%

Standard Oil of California 0%

Standard Oil of Colorado 0%

Standard Oil of Kansas 0%

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Standard Oil of Nebraska 0%

Standard Oil of Oklahoma 0%

Standard Oil of Oregon 0%

Standard Oil of Utah 0%

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Standard Oil of Montana 0%

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